

PAULSEN

PRIDE

February/March, 2009

Paulsen People

February Birthdays

- 01 Don Darling
- 02 Brenda Hayes
- 05 Glen Bomberger
- 07 Efren Chavez-Avila
Bill Smith
- 10 Kelly McCoy
- 16 Traci Blackman
- 17 Troy Baldwin
- 18 Ellen Brewer
- 20 Mitchell Helmuth
- 21 Aaron Schneider
- 23 Scott Rief
- 24 Luis Barajas
- 25 Scott Holbrook
- 26 Denny Deal
Gregory Durning
Jim Ollendick
- 27 Zachary Dady
- 28 Chris Hunke

February Team Member Anniversaries

- 20 Years
Don Rowland
- 15 Years
Jerry Zook
- 5 Years
Kenneth Wright

March Birthdays

- 03 Jesus Adame
- 06 Viola Smith
Tracy Thorell
- 07 Gildardo Vazquez
- 08 Mark Schlichenmayer
- 12 Kenneth Wright
- 13 Jerry Zook
- 14 Don Rowland
- 16 Efren Penaflor

(Continued on page 2)

~ FAREWELL GUYS ~



L.P. with Leon Myer and Jim Hatcher at their retirement party.

Leon Myer (Gravel & Ready-Mix), Jim Hatcher (Building) and Ron Kratzer (Ready-Mix) said goodbye to friends and coworkers at their retirement parties, and Paulsen, Inc. said goodbye to 97 years of

combined experience in three departments at the end of 2008. We appreciate all the years of hard work. Congratulations to you all!



Ron and his wife, Linda, showing off his "gone fishing" cake.



We are getting close to having about half of our training accomplished at this point, and I hope the weather continues to cooperate so we can get the rest of it done without a hitch.

We have been stressing changing everyone's attitude when it comes to safety. Safety truly is part of what we do, and we all need to embrace that attitude. It takes your effort to continue to lower our EMR and to reduce our vehicle accident rate.

We have also been stressing the importance of reporting all accidents and injuries in detail as soon as possible to Scott Holbrook or myself and also to your Department Manager.

We have been able to get through quite a bit of training already, and since the weather has been bitterly cold, the one good thing you can say is "at least it has been warm in the training room."

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

McSafety's Corner

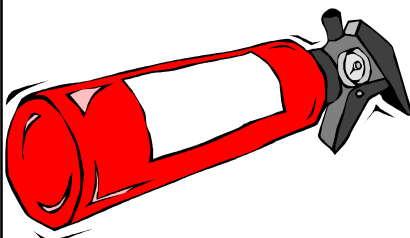
In our meetings this year we have been stressing attitude, hazard recognition, and taking personal responsibility to correct the hazards you do come across. I hope everyone has come away with a better understanding of how to recognize and correct hazards at their jobsite.

On Wednesday, February 25, starting at 8:00 a.m., we will be conducting forklift training in the training room at the main office. If you operate a forklift or skid-steer with forks, you are required to have this training. It is required every three years. If you have not received this training either of the past two years, you will need to be here.

On Wednesday, February 25, starting at 1:00 p.m., we will be conducting respiratory protection training. This is for anyone who uses a respirator and has not attended a full Paulsen, Inc. respiratory protection training class before. The PPE training during the OSHA and MSHA training sessions serves as an annual refresher for those who have had the full training class.

If you have a conflict with either of these training sessions, please contact me here at the main office at 308-784-3333 or by cell 308-325-1911.

Remember, the annual fire extinguisher inspection dates are coming up on **Monday, February 9 and Tuesday, February 10**. Please have the fire extinguishers (except the small disposable extinguishers) brought to the warehouse **Bay 1** prior to 10:00 a.m. on the 10th (except those at the Cozad Redi-Mix, corporate office building and shop). Please mark your extinguishers with the division name and location or unit number.



(Continued from page 1)

March Birthdays

- 18 Matthew Fritson
Julie Mellman
- 19 Jose Mendez
Daniel Niles
- 20 Christy Chrisinger
- 28 James Holman
- 29 Debra Ebsen
- 30 Rigoberto Rodriguez

March Team Member

Anniversaries

35 Years

Denny Deal

30 Years

Chris Hunke

10 Years

Don Dillon

5 Years

Gary Bomberger

Paul Halouska

Harold Lawrence

Bryon Sazama

Congratulations and thank you for all your years of service to Paulsen, Inc.

WHAT WERE THEY THINKING?



Pop-Up Truck: This is what happens when you don't open the tailgate before lifting the bed. Grab your cell phone for help, because it's a long way to the ground.

Sent in by Laurie Wright (Asphalt driver)



We would like to expand our 401k committee to include more employees. If anyone is interested in serving on the committee, please call Jane German at the office.



Paulsen, Inc. is now going to offer Direct Deposit. With Direct Deposit, your funds will arrive at your bank on Wednesday. We will discontinue the service of mailing your paycheck to your bank. Direct Deposit automates this process for us. Please consider signing up. It is safe and simple.



Two Ready-Mix trucks dumping into the pumper truck pouring a parking lot at the Building Department's Dawson Public Power new corporate office facility.

Department Notes

Dennis Sandrock - Paving

At the present time, we have been working on the equipment and trying to get ready for spring.

The work that is slated to start is:

- Elm Creek — Buffalo Creek Road at the Elm Creek I-80 truck stop.
- Ogallala — Spruce Street, about four blocks long.
- Gothenburg — 5th Street and 9,000 square yards, which is the remainder of 2008 paving.
- Grand Island — Highway 30 has some drives, intersection returns, and walk to complete.
- Gothenburg Airport has 1,450 square yards of remove and replace taxiways.

We also have to finish paving at the Cozad interchange, and some change order paving on the Cozad railroad viaduct.

It looks like there will be quite a bit of work coming out to bid so it should be another busy season.

Also we won an NCPA award for City Streets for the Minden Paving project which had 55 blocks, and an NCPA and Nebraska Department of Aeronautics project of the year award for the Valentine Airport. Congratulations to everyone.

We want to welcome Clay Otto who is coming to work for us. He is a Construction Management graduate, and he worked a short time for Kiewit.

Hopefully the weather will permit us to get started around the first part of March, so we can get some of our odds and ends wrapped up prior to getting on with the bigger projects.

Jim Jewell - Asphalt

We had just enough nice late fall weather to finish up the most critical work. We were hoping to place the surface lift on the Burwell project, but ran out of time.

This winter we've had a small crew

working hard getting equipment ready for next season. It seems that there is a lot to do, and spring will be here before we know it.

We have also been bidding quite a bit of work. Thanks to Tony and Randy for all the help in the January Nebraska letting, where we did pick up three nice jobs. It appears that we have about 200,000 tons to do this year already, and I'm hoping to get that up to at least 300,000 tons.

There are several classes employees will be attending. Six people will be traveling to Chattanooga, Tennessee in mid-February for a course on asphalt plant operations and all it involves. The AGC is also having some training classes we will have the appropriate people attend.

We should be ready to go when spring arrives. Hopefully, that will be early this year.

Asphalt Department Bid Results:

Kimball County: I-80, East Kimball to Potter

Werner Construction	\$2,974,263
Simon Contractors	\$3,047,063
Paulsen, Inc.	\$3,075,028
Western Engineering	\$3,093,780
U.S. Asphalt	\$3,122,882
Knife River Midwest	\$3,143,801

Custer County: N-70, Broken Bow East

Paulsen, Inc.	\$4,595,759
Werner Construction	\$4,619,023
Knife River Midwest	\$4,778,687
Simon Contractors	\$4,837,061

Keith County: US-26, West of Ogallala

Paulsen, Inc.	\$3,086,661
Simon Contractors	\$3,224,327
Werner Construction	\$3,326,238
U.S. Asphalt	\$3,416,950

Keith County: N-61, Ogallala South

Simon Contractors	\$1,517,350
Paulsen, Inc.	\$1,542,880
Werner Construction	\$1,640,207
U.S. Asphalt	\$1,811,115

Lincoln County: US-83, State Farm Road North, North Platte

Cement Products	\$3,576,209
Paulsen, Inc.	\$3,861,077
Upper Plains Contr.	\$4,177,481
Heggem Construction	\$4,274,877
Dobson Brothers	\$4,456,337

Furnas County: N-47, Jct. N-89 North

Werner Construction	\$2,733,527
Paulsen, Inc.	\$2,883,338
U.S. Asphalt	\$2,935,753
Simon Contractors	\$3,065,461

Harlan County: S42A Huntley Spur

Paulsen, Inc.	\$1,486,484
Werner Construction	\$1,591,446
Simon Contractors	\$1,692,048
Vontz Paving	\$1,810,473

Dundy County: US-34, Colorado Line to Haigler

Simon Contractors	\$2,921,933
Paulsen, Inc.	\$3,034,345
U.S. Asphalt	\$3,145,629
Werner Construction	\$3,240,013
Western Engineering	\$3,276,263

Hitchcock County: US-34, Stratton to Jct. R44B

Simon Contractors	\$3,628,044
Werner Construction	\$3,701,083
Paulsen, Inc.	\$3,835,633
U.S. Asphalt	\$3,935,747

Joe Welch - Building

The Building Department continues to make progress on our current projects.

In Lexington, Superintendent Randy Weatherly and crew continue to make progress at the new corporate office building for Dawson Public Power District.

Interior finishes are progressing in the office area with the installation of cabinets, carpet and tile. The interior floor slabs of the parts area and truck barn will be poured in February.

Superintendent Tim Yocom and crew have been working on the grading and placing rebar for the slabs. As soon as the weather breaks, we will

(Continued on page 5)

Paulsen Profile — Ron Kratzer



Ron Kratzer spent all of his 27 years with Paulsen, Inc. at the Ready-Mix plant in Broken Bow.

He recalls, “Henry Trotter hired me. He ran the place up here, and was the main boss in Broken Bow. He was a very nice man and a pleasure to work for. Besides hauling concrete, he hired me to do mechanic and maintenance work on the trucks in the wintertime when things were slow. After Henry left, Doug Sadler took over, and I worked for him from then on. Lately, I’ve mainly driven a Ready-Mix truck, sometimes hauled a little gravel, and did most of the maintenance work on the Broken Bow plant.”

“I really enjoyed what I did. I liked pouring for different people and meeting the individual customers and knowing we’d helped them get a project done. I liked driving the truck and going to different places and the change of scenery.”

“I also liked to see the projects that you can’t imagine how they designed them. For example, we pour a lot of box culverts, and they usually take 200-300 yards of concrete. 300 yards would be big. One we did by Ord took 850 yards. The next one down the road took 650 yards. They were very deep, with walls 14 feet high. Things like that interest me.”

“My favorite project was right after I started here. We did a slip form grain elevator up at Merna. We poured 24 hours a day for nine days. It was a

really slow pour, only 4½ yards an hour. We didn’t have a lot of help either. We had a night shift and a day shift and that was it. I was the only Ready-Mix driver at the time, and even helped haul a little gravel in too. I remember I had over 89 hours in that one week. It was tiring, but it was interesting to watch that big elevator go up. It still stands there in Merna.”

“Another really interesting job I worked on was a couple of summers ago when the wind farm was going up at Ainsworth. We were pouring bases for those huge windmills. They brought in a 310’ tall crane. Just the blades of the windmills were over 130’ long. Seeing how they put them together was fascinating. Last summer we helped the Ainsworth plant out in pouring some hog buildings that were across the road from the windmill farm, so it was neat to see a job completed. We were usually at the beginning of a project, so I didn’t get to see very many of them after they were done.

Ron was born in Lexington, but grew up on a farm outside of Oconto on Red Fern Table. He attended grade school and graduated from high school at Oconto. He then went to Universal Trade School for automotive mechanics.

He married his wife, Linda, in 1966, and they live in Broken Bow. Linda is the office manager at Wenquist Automotive. They have two grown sons and are the proud grandparents of four young grandchildren .

Their oldest son, Scott, lives in Kearney with his wife, Stacy. Scott is an athletic trainer for New West Medicine. They have two children, Natalie (9) and Tyler (6).

Younger son, Brett, lives in Sydney, with his wife, Heather. Brett and Heather both work for Cabela’s. They also have two children, Paul (7) and Kate (5).

Now that Ron’s done working at Paulsen, Inc., he plans to do a little traveling and a lot of fishing.

“In about two weeks, Linda and I are headed out to California, north of San Francisco, to visit her aunt and some of my cousins we haven’t seen in a long time. Since Linda is still working full time, we won’t be doing a lot of traveling until she retires. But then we want to spend some time in Texas during the winters.”

“I fish about every weekend during the summer. We lease a lot over at Sherman Reservoir where we leave our fifth-wheel. We have everything we need right there so it’s very relaxing. I basically fish for Walleye, but I’ll catch whatever’s biting.”

“I like to hunt pheasant too, but haven’t done a lot of it lately. I did go out the last day of the season and got my limit by 9:30. I also enjoy hunting with my Labrador, Sandy. I’ve trained her myself, and she minds me really well. It wasn’t that great of a year for ducks, but we did get some.”

“My other hobby is sporting clays and trap. I shoot on a both a summer league and winter league, and shoot a little blue rock too.”

“I want to thank everyone for giving me a really nice party for my retirement. There were lots of people there and lots of good food. I really appreciated it.”

We wish you the best, Ron!

Ron’s Favorites

Restaurant: Tub’s Pub

TV Show: Wheel of Fortune

Movie: Comic westerns like Cat Ballou

Food: Ribeye steak & crab legs

Drink: Cold Old Milwaukee beer

have more concrete to place on the outside of the building. The project is scheduled for a May 2, 2009, completion date.

In Ogallala, Superintendent Terry Brand is completing the final touches on the renovation project for the east- and west-bound Interstate 80 rest areas. The interior work is almost complete and ready for occupancy.

In Cozad, Superintendent Darin Derr and crew have completed the new office and shop facility for Nebraska Ag and Irrigation. Some minor site grading will be required in the spring, but for now, the owners have occupied the building and are pleased with the final result.

Superintendent Tim Dean and crew continue to make progress on the construction of a new maintenance facility for the Nebraska Department of Roads. The interior of the offices are being framed and sheetrocked, and interior finishes will begin soon.

North of Cozad, the Building Department continues to work on a new metal building for Larry Paulsen. Superintendent Dan Schwartz and crew have the building enclosed and will pour the floor slab the first week of February. Work on the interior will continue the remainder of February.

Project Manager Dave Jeffrey has been working with the owner and architect on the additions and renovations to the Elm Creek Public Schools. We are hopeful the design will be completed in February so that site work can begin by the middle of March.

Brian Engel - Ready-Mix

I hope everybody had a great holiday season with their family and friends.

Back at work, we have been getting our winter training meetings taken care of. A couple more weeks and we will be done and ready to go back to work.

Hopefully, Mother Nature will cooperate with us so we can get going in early March. There is a lot of work to bid yet this winter and spring, and hopefully, we will get a good share of it.

We did have another one of our long-time employees retire right before Christmas. Ron Kratzer, one of our drivers from Broken Bow, decided he was ready for "easy street."

Ron started driving for the company in July of 1983. He was a great driver with a great attitude and work ethic. He was one of the best at keeping his truck clean and well maintained. We will miss him, but wish him the best in his retirement, and I hope the fish keep biting!

Have a safe couple of months and we all look forward to getting back to work soon!

Chris Hunke - Gravel

By now I hope everyone has recuperated from the holidays. It seems like it's already been a long, very cold winter.

Winter training is in full swing. Most of you have heard a lot of the same things over and over.

We do this so that you will think before you act. Pay attention.

Trucks and equipment are being worked on in the shop. If you get something back and it was not fixed or doesn't seem to be working correctly, please let Joe or myself know. If you don't send a list along, it's hard to catch everything.

We have some work to get started on and there is more being bid.

Work we have:

- MSE wall fill on the Cozad I-80 overpass (Koch's South)
- Highway 70 east of Broken Bow (Gates)
- Highway 21 south of Cozad, Cozad track, & Huntley Spur (don't know which pit(s) are going to supply these jobs)
- Highway 26 northwest of Ogallala (Ogallala)
- 700 tons of special roofing gravel to Lincoln (Lexington)
- New pavement to the golf course (Gothenburg).

We look forward to the weather warming up, the ice melting, and being able to get all of you back to work.

Remember, it's not a dumb question if you do not know the answer. Ask before you act.

Thanks for all of your hard work, and **Think Safety — It is YOUR responsibility!!**



Please send any pictures of the Cancun trip to Larry or Al Jamieson. Al was the videographer on the trip, and he is compiling his footage together with still pictures on a CD with music for everyone to enjoy.

Larry's email — chipper@cozadtel.net
Al's email — aljamieson@thestables.info





Jaden Hunke, born May 15, 2008, is the daughter of Christopher Hunke (Ready-Mix/Gravel) and being held by proud Grandpa Chris Hunke (Gravel).

Paulsen Pride is about YOU!

*Do you have news to share?
A special talent or unusual hobby?
Family serving in the armed forces?
Weddings, new babies, graduations
or other honors?*

*We want to know! Contact the
editor, Penny Jeffrey, directly at
308-858-4964 or by email at
jfryfmly@gpcom.net.*



View the *Paulsen Pride* online at www.paulseninc.com, thanks to many hours of work by Ray Nelson of the Gravel Department.

Paulsen Pride
Post Office Box 17
Cozad, NE 69130